

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please substitute claims 1-27 with the following:

1-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a fee for a service of a service provider comprising the steps of:

receiving a service request requesting desired service for a user from the service provider and a digital signature created based on said service request to said service provider, ~~wherein said service request and said digital signature are stored in a storage medium;~~

automatically recording the service request and the service provider in an IC card, wherein information recorded on the IC card cannot be modified;

determining whether said service request and said digital signature are valid; and  
when it is determined that said service request and said digital signature are valid,  
collecting the fee from the user.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein  
said storage medium is connectable to said user terminal, and the user sends said service request and said digital signature stored in said storage medium by submitting said storage medium.

19. (Cancelled).

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein  
said service request and digital signature stored in said storage medium are impossible for the user to rewrite.

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein said storage medium has information used for generating said digital signature.
22. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 21, wherein said information includes the personal information of the user.
23. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 22 wherein said personal information includes a user name and a bank account number of user.
24. (Currently Amended) A system for providing a fee for a service of a service provider comprising:
- means for receiving a service request requesting desired service for a user from the service provider and a digital signature created based on said service request to said service provider, ~~wherein said service request and said digital signature are stored in a storage medium;~~
- means for automatically recording the service request and the service provider in an IC card, wherein information recorded on the IC card cannot be modified;
- means for determining whether said service request and said digital signature are valid;
- and
- means for collecting the fee from the user when it is determined that said service request and said digital signature are valid.
25. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 24, wherein said storage medium is connectable to said user terminal, and the user sends said service request and said digital signature stored in said storage medium by submitting said storage medium.

26. (Previously Presented) A system for requesting service of a service provider comprising:

a user terminal for providing to a service provider a service request requesting desired service and a digital signature created based on said service request to said service provider; and

a storage medium for storing said service request and said digital signature,

wherein when the user objects to a charge, in response to a charge collection notice from an accounting terminal, the user enables a sending of data stored in said storage medium to said accounting terminal, and the accounting terminal determines whether said service request and said digital signature are valid before collecting a fee from the user terminal.

27. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 26, wherein

said storage medium is connectable to said user terminal, and the user sends said data stored in said storage medium by submitting said storage medium.